99TH CONGRESS
2d Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT
99-493

MAKING AN URGENT SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1986, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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Mr. WHITTEN, from the committee of conference, submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT

[To accompany H.J. Res. 534]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the resolution (H.J. Res. 534) "making an urgent supplemental appropriation for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1986, and for other purposes," having met, after full and free conference, have been unable to agree.

The committee of conference report in disagreement amendment numbered 1.

JAMIE L. WHITTEN,
BOB TRAXLER,
MATTHEW F. MCHUGH,
WILLIAM H. NATCHER,
DANIEL K. AKAKA,
WES WATKINS,
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NEAL SMITH,
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HAROLD ROGERS,
JOE SKEEN,
SILVIO O. CONTE,
Managers on the Part of the House.

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THAD COCHRAN,
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QUENTIN N. BURDICK,
JOHN C. STENNIS,
LAWTON CHILES,
JIM SASSER,
DALE BUMPERS,
TOM HARKIN,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 534), making an urgent supplemental appropriation for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1986, and for other purposes, report that the conferees have been unable to agree. This is a technical disagreement, necessitated by the fact that the substitute language agreed to by the conferees includes a provision which would fall outside the normal range between the House provision and deletion of the House provision as was proposed by the Senate.

It is the intention of the conferees that the managers on the part of the House will offer a motion in the House to recede and concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment consisting of the language agreed to in conference, and that upon the adoption of such amendment in the House, the managers on the part of the Senate will offer a motion in the Senate to concur therein.

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate submit the following joint statement in explanation of the action agreed upon by the managers:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Amendment No. 1. Reported in technical disagreement. The managers on the part of the House will offer a motion to recede and concur in the amendment of the Senate with an amendment as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

: Provided further, That after fiscal year 1987, funds available to the Corporation may be used to carry out section 1241(a)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985, only to such extent or in such amounts as provided in advance in appropriations Acts. The sign-up agreement should not reduce total production below levels needed to meet domestic needs, maintain the supply line, and provide for an adequate supply for export by either the Commodity Credit Corporation or private corporations or individuals at competitive prices; since by law the proceeds from sales become available for use by the Commodity Credit Corporation, such sales should reduce future appropriations: Provided further, That the conservation reserve program shall not replace or reduce any existing conservation program.

The level of funds previously appropriated for the insured operating loan program of the Farmers Home Administration, as provided

in the Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1986 for Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies (H.R. 3037), as enacted by Public Law 99-190 on December 19, 1985, shall be available until expended except as that level may be reduced by the terms of the sequester order implemented on March 1, 1986.

The managers on the part of the Senate will move to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate.

The conference agreement deletes House language which provided that after fiscal year 1986, funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out the conservation reserve program and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation program shall be available only to such extent or in such amounts as provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

The conference agreement includes language that the sign-up agreement for the conservation reserve program should not reduce total production below levels needed to meet domestic needs, maintain the supply line, and provide for an adequate supply for export by either the Commodity Credit Corporation or private corporations or individuals at competitive prices.

The conference agreement also provides that the conservation reserve program shall not replace or reduce any existing conservation program.

The Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1986 (H.R. 3037), as enacted by Public Law 99-190 on December 19, 1985, provided $2.7 billion for direct operating loans. The conferees insist that the funds provided in the Appropriations Act remain available for fiscal year 1986, and remain available until expended, except as that level may be reduced by the terms of the sequester order implemented on March 1, 1986.

COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM

The conferees have been advised that the Department plans to use commodity supplemental food program funds to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for donated surplus commodities. The conferees have agreed these funds shall not be used for reimbursement until this proposal has been reviewed by the appropriate committees of Congress.

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